

Crowds gather to honour wartime heroine





Richard Prime, Hereford Times 1st July 2017

Occasional scuds of rain failed to dampen a spirit of celebration as scores of people gathered in Wormelow to mark the birthday of one of the country's great heroines.

Violette Szabo was executed by the Nazis towards the end of the Second World War at the age of just 23.

But her short, brave life was recalled at the museum which bears her name in the village where she spent many family holidays.

Rosemary Rigby, the founder and owner of the Violette Szabo Museum, hosted proceedings and introduced several special guests.

Tania Szabo, Violette's daughter, gave some poignant recollections of her mother who was taken from her when she was just two years old.

Survival expert Ray Mears spoke eloquently of his admiration of Violette and the other Special Operations Executive members.

Ruby Ann sang some period tunes and Virginia McKenna, who portrayed Violette in the biopic *Carve Her Name With Pride*, read the poem 'The Life That I Have'.